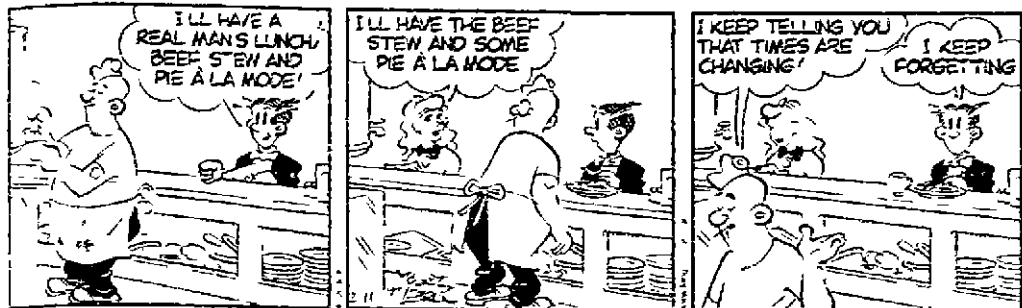


BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



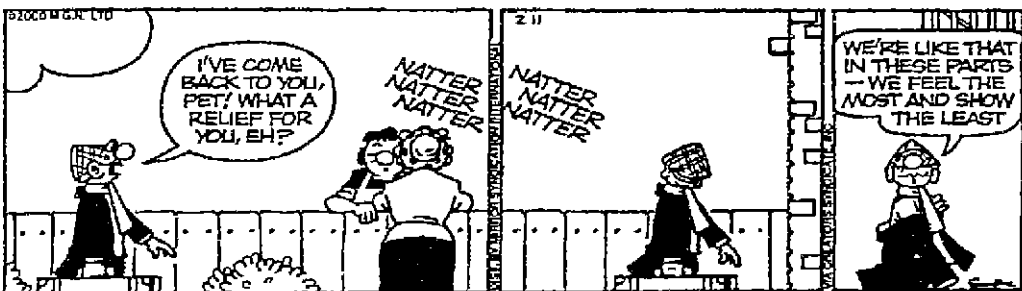
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



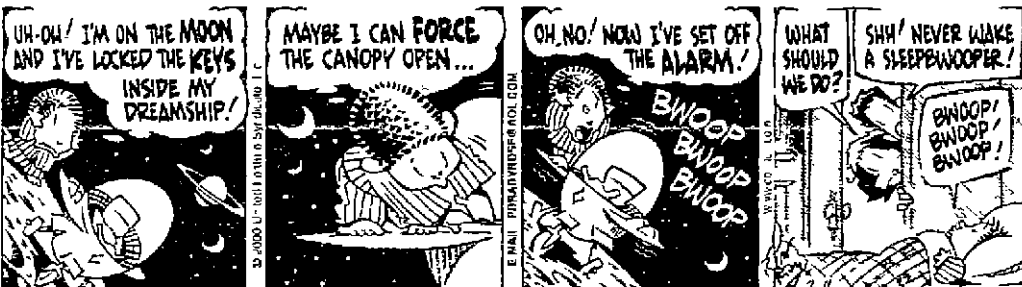
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



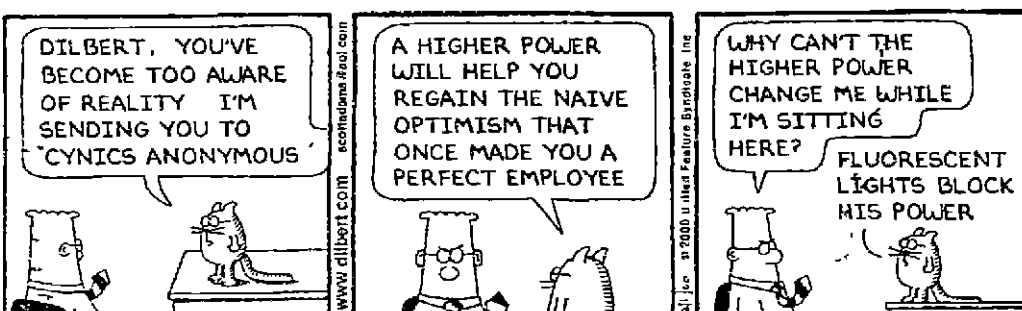
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



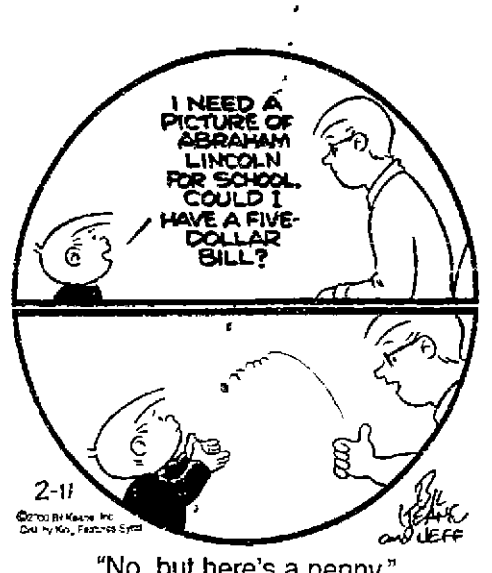
DILBERT



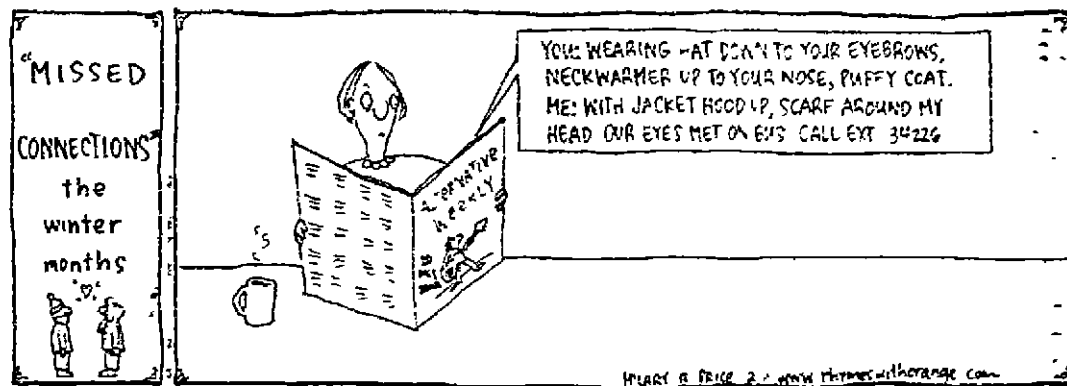
DENNIS THE MENACE



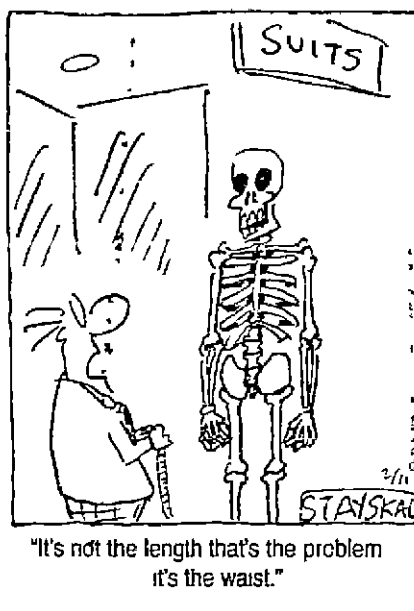
FAMILY CIRCUS



RYHMES WITH ORANGE



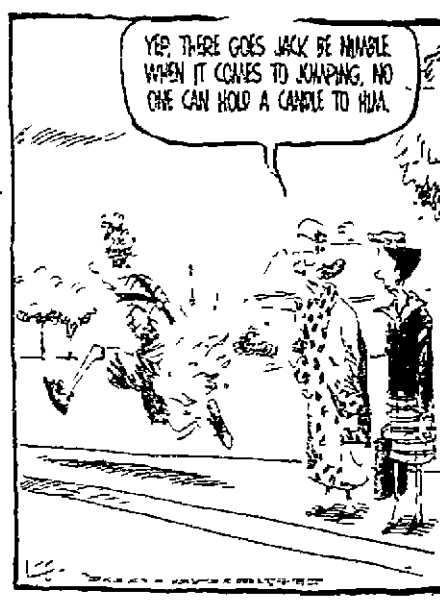
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Author Sidney Sheldon is 83
Former Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen is 79
Actress Kim Stanley is 75
Actor Leslie Nielsen is 74
Actor Conrad Janis is 72
Actress Tina Louise is 66
Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan is 66
Actor Burt Reynolds is 64
Songwriter Gerry Goffin is 61
Singer Bobby "Boris" Pickett is 60
Bandleader Sergio Mendes is 59
Singer Sheryl Crow is 38

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

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C	R	E	T	O	U	I	Double Word Score
A	N	L	W	G	E	U	
R	N	P	T	E	E	E	Triple Word Score
P	I	U	T	S	L	P	4th Letter Triple

PAR SCORE 170-180
by JUDD
FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrill Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chenbers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

MEMBERS OF THE OAS

D P M J G A D A X V S Q N K I
F D A B D X V T Q O M J H F C
A Y W A R G E N T I N A U R P
N L N J L A H M F D B Z X V T
R A Q O M E Z Y A U G U R U K
C U R E P H U I I N H F O D B
H Z Y W Z A V Z L V I T D R Q
I O N L K I N I E H F R A D C
L A Z X L T L A A N A Y U G W
E V U O C I X E M S E R C S Q
O N B M K J I H B A F V E E A

Thursday's unlisted clue CROQUET
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Friday's unlisted clue hint: CAPITAL IS LIMA
Argentina Canada Haiti Uruguay
Belize Chile Mexico USA
Bolivia Ecuador Panama Venezuela
Brazil Guyana Suriname

For solution, see Classified

HOROSCOPE

For Saturday, Feb. 12
ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your financial situation could take a turn for the worse if you don't keep a keen eye on your spending.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) This is a great day to accomplish those tasks you've been putting off.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) It's going to take a lot of patience to overcome the obstacles of the day.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) If you complete your work early today, take some time off to have some fun.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Keep a close eye on your professional reputation today.
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Keep an open mind, and you could experience something life-changing.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) As the moon moves into the house of Taurus, you seem to notice the beauty of everything around you.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Even though you are more comfortable staying inside of your shell, this is a good day to come out.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) As the moon enters Taurus, your communication skills improve.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Your creative mood makes you seek out the company of a child today.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Even though it might seem as if you've heard the same story a million times, listen once more.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Beauty and a sense of peace surround you today.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff
West led his fourth-best spade to East's jack, and South comfortably won his queen. Carefully, he led a low heart to dummy's queen and led the first diamond from dummy. Had he led his diamond jack from his hand instead, West would have ducked easily, allowing East to win. East would have returned a spade, and the game would have had no chance. However, South's cagey lead from dummy didn't work. East hopped up with his diamond king anyway and re-turned a spade. West established his spades while he still held the diamond ace, and South could win only eight tricks. East did make a good play in diamonds, however. He should never have had the opportunity to stymie the defense. South should refuse to win East's spade jack at trick one. East's spade return would trap West's king, and South would succeed with or without a cover by West. When South leads diamonds, if East wins he would have no spade to lead. And if West wins, he would lose his entry to run his suit. What if East held three spades? Then South would lose only two spades and two diamonds, leading to the same result.

NORTH ♠ 114
♥ A 7 5
♦ A Q 9
♣ Q 10 9 7 5
♠ 8 3

WEST ♠ K 9 6 4 2
♥ 10 4 3 2
♦ A 3
♣ Q 5

EAST ♠ J 8
♥ 7 6 5
♦ K 6 4 2
♣ J 10 9 8

SOUTH ♠ Q 10 3
♥ K J 8
♦ K 10
♣ A K 7 4 2

Vulnerable: Neither
Dealer: South

The bidding
South West North East
1♠ Pass 1♥ Pass
1NT Pass 2NT Pass
3NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: spade four

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

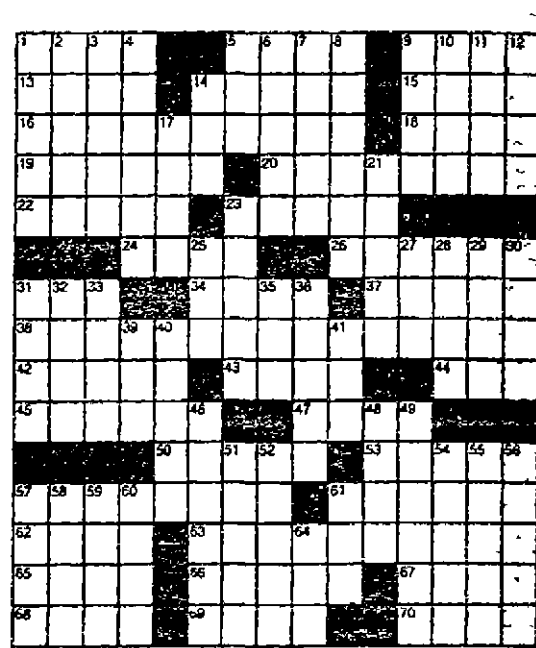
No. 1231

ACROSS
1 Way out
5 Chick who played "Stompin' at the Savoy"
9 1988 Grand Slam winner
13 Big field
14 Guardians of the gates of Olympus
15 King in Hindi
16 Really mad
18 Faisal's land
19 Dragon, maybe
20 Barbers' needs
22 Weasel
23 Swiss city
24 Ropes, e.g.
26 Like blue chip stocks
31 Gossip
34 1951 N.L. Rookie of the Year
37 Alfredo, in "La Traviata"
38 "It was nice getting acquainted"
42 Geoffrey of fashion
43 Cornical piece
44 Put away the dishes
45 New Hampshire's capital during the Revolution
47 Professors' degs
50 Windmill parts
53 Victorious
57 Scandalous
61 Chevron's place
62 Parabolic circle
63 Personal trainer's comment
65 Company with a reptile logo
66 Bacon piece
67 Bank
68 SI (line beach locale)
69 Regard
70 Regards

DOWN
1 Game played standing up
2 Limer locale
3 Provide an address
4 Put on safe
5 Frying a d
6 Susan's Emmy-winning role
7 Start of a count
8 Contradicts
9 Film crew member
10 Pink
11 Like a 1 Across, maybe
12 On-line newsgroup features
14 Rain, essentially
17 Bird
21 Academy founder
23 Not so joyful noises
25 Sound studio device
27 Oligarchical group
28 Insh pop singer
29 Smog contributor
30 Sincere
31 Agree
32 Green card issuer

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

CASUAL PITA BULB
AMINO ATOZ OHIO
GOODSENSE OF YUMA
ERISATZ RED HOT
ELATES
TAMPA RESISTANT
ALIAS BHT GEAR
TETRA ACU SLAKE
ARCS RAL TATED
THESPOKANEWORD
ORNERY
SPOUSE NODEAL
TULSA STORY DADDY
ERIE TARD ERNIE
WEND OXEN SEANS



33 "This is fu-u-u-n!"
35 Kind of bug
36 Record problems
39 White
40 Tick off
41 Like a certain one in line
46 Traveled the Yellowstone River
48 Allotment
49 Expressions of contempt
51 Don't guzzle
52 "Family Ties" mother
54 Portable home
55 Small egg
56 Distant of note
57 Place for hands
58 Cause of low visibility
59 Tons
60 Math calculation
61 What's up?
64 When D S T ends

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years 1-888-7-CROSS.